

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph ending at page 7, line 31:

Fig. 7 is an enlarged schematic cross-sectional view of a stent filament.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 28 with the following amended paragraph:

The outer member and core may be in many cross-sectional geometric configurations, such as circular, square, triangular, hexagonal, octagonal, trapezoidal and the geometrical configuration of the core may differ from that of the longitudinal member. For example, the outer member of a filament may be rectangular in cross-section with a rectangular core or triangular or hexagonal in cross-section with a circular core. A stent filament may also take on the form of tubing with a lumen within the core extending along the axis. A stent filament may also include successive layers of less dense outer material and more dense core material to form a multi-composite system of three layers (e.g., layers 4', 9', 8', FIG. 7) or more from exterior to center. The core may extend intermittently along the axis in a desired pattern.